GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:276
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2002
BLENDING OF ETHANOL WITH PETROL
BASUDEB ACHARIA;JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Brazilian Government for sharing the know-how to blend ethanol to petrol or diesel;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any tests have been carried out to mix ethanol in diesel;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have been able to save foreign currency after allowing petrol-ethanol blending;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the blended petrol would be made available throughout the country; and

(g) if so, the expected foreign currency to be saved as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 276 T ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002 REGARDING BLENDING OF ETHANOL WITH PETROL

(a) to (g) The Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Government of Indiaand Government of Brazil on 08.04.2002 which provides for sharing of technology by Brazil for blending of ethanol with petrol/diesel and giving consultancy on various related aspects. R&D studies are in progress for blending of ethanol with diesel.

Petrol is not imported at present. However, foreign exchange could be earned by export of petrol rendered surplus through its blending with ethanol.

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have decided in principle to supply 5% ethanol doped petrol in the eight sugarcaneproducing States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Mahrashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradeshin the first phase with effect from 1.1.2003 and in the rest of the country in the second phase. No computation of foreign currency saving is possible at this stage.